



SB 1516 The Small Business Expansion Loan Fund Deserves Support

Testimony for Senate Business and Transportation – Jody Wiser – 2.7.2018

Tax Fairness Oregon appreciates this way of assisting businesses. Capital is often a problem, especially for early growth and expanding businesses. Further, the choice between equity and interest is a question not only of what is available, but also which both the business owner and investors make.

On a technical level, we have noted that there is no maximum loan amount provided in this legislation. The Small Energy Loan Program made several loans that were far above what most of us would consider small. We suggest you include a maximum loan size in the law. We want to say we are glad this loan program will be at Business Oregon, where they have considerable experience in evaluating, negotiating and managing loan programs. This will hopefully keep the failed loan stories off the front page of newspapers.

This is far better public policy than the pass-through income tax rate reduction, which provides benefits whether a business desires it or not, and without any expectations of public benefit.

Like our innovation centers, our community college and university departments that support specific industries by developing their work force, do research to solve problems they face, and provide small business support centers, and trade missions, this loan program is designed to meet a real need, not simply create a random reduction in taxes.

We read the bills and follow the money